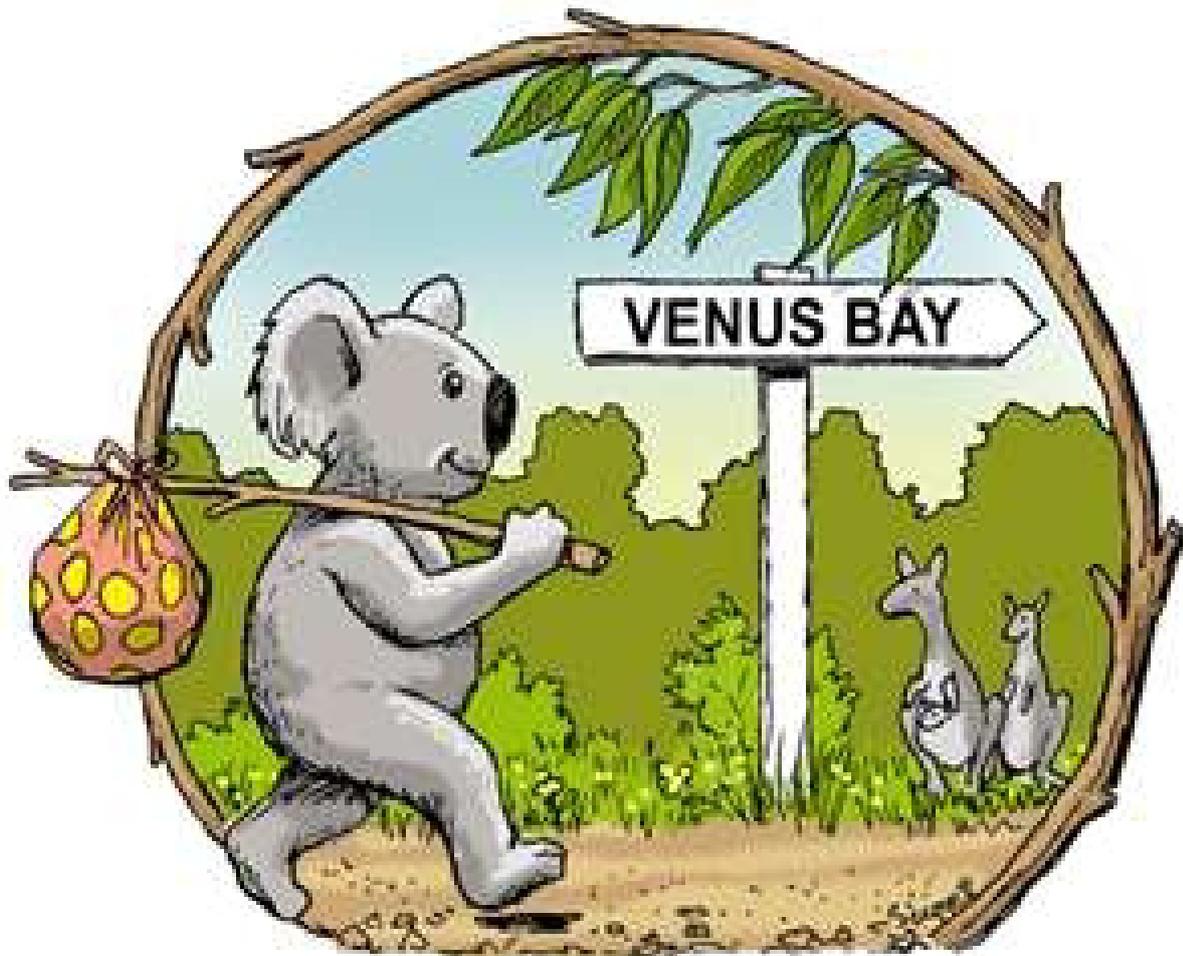


MATTER OF FACT

a free community newsletter published by
Venus Bay Community Centre

APRIL 2022 Vol 4 Issue 13

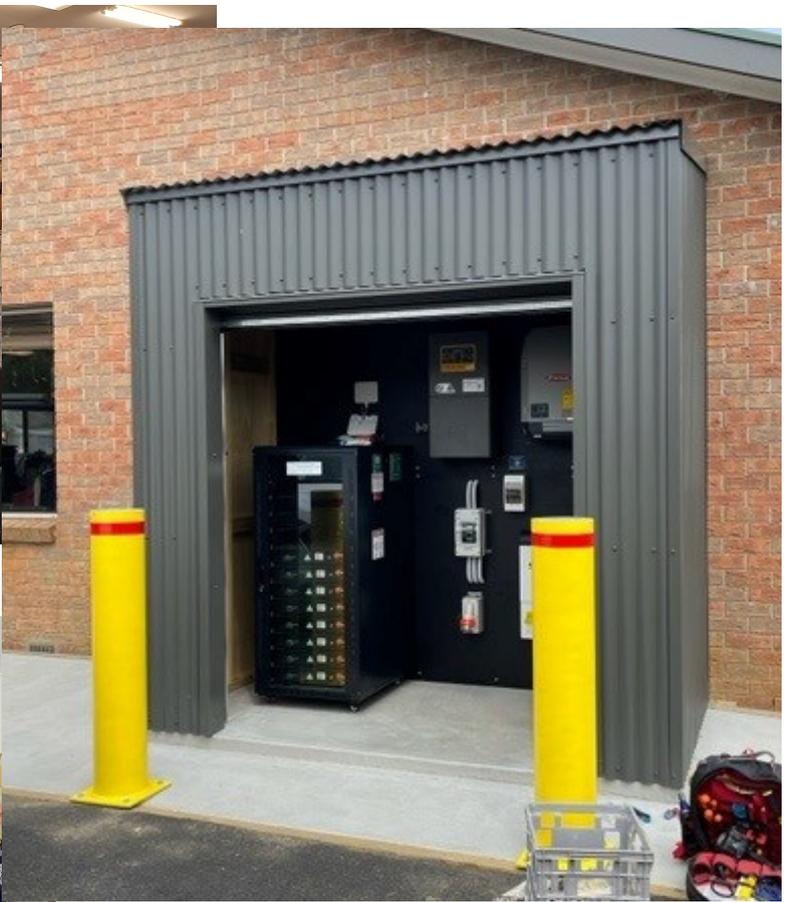


Providing information for
Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower
and Walkerville district

VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



Community Energy Resilience Project – Venus Bay

This last month we hosted a marvellous launch for our Community Energy Resilience project at the Venus Bay Community Centre: Community Energy meets the People!

The project has seen additional solar array added to our existing solar system, and a significant lithium battery. This means we can act as a mini Microgrid – with resilient energy available for our community members when the grid goes down.

We know that we are facing more frequent and severe weather events – and we know the impact that has on our community with no water, no power and for some no cooking or heating. This project seeks to address some of these issues while we look towards the bigger project of Community Energy for Venus Bay.



We hosted a range of State, Federal and local government representatives along with other stakeholders in our region who are looking at community energy/renewable energy projects. Most importantly, we welcomed community members and champions for this project.

With support from the Victorian State Government through Sustainability Victoria to the Gippsland

Community Power Hub, along with cash and in-kind contributions from the Venus Bay Community Centre; we were pleased to showcase our project and demonstrate what community can do when they work together on issues they share.

Where to from here? We have applied for funding from Federal Government to undertake a significant feasibility study to understand what community energy solutions might look like for us – with opportunities for plenty of community input and feedback along with way. Ideally this will help to define a business case for which we can then look for ways to implement. In addition, we know lots of community members have questions about their own renewable energy systems – what kind of system might be suitable for individual households, what kind of battery capacity is needed etc. We are aiming to host another community forum in May to offer some practitioner guidance on these issues, and to share what we know.



FUN RUN & WALK



Easter Sunday
Sunday 17th
April 2022

Venus Bay Beach #1
Shotgun start from 3pm

DISTANCES

2.2km | 6.6km | 8.2km | 10km

PRICES

Family | \$35 | Adult | \$15 Child | \$10

Join us for a run or walk along the fabulous beaches of Venus Bay and help to raise funds for the Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club. After the event, join us back at the Clubhouse - Beach 1 will be transformed with food trucks, drinks and entertainment for everyone to enjoy.

MORE INFORMATION

www.vbslsc.org.au/surf2cinq

REGISTER

www.trybooking.com/events/landing/831929

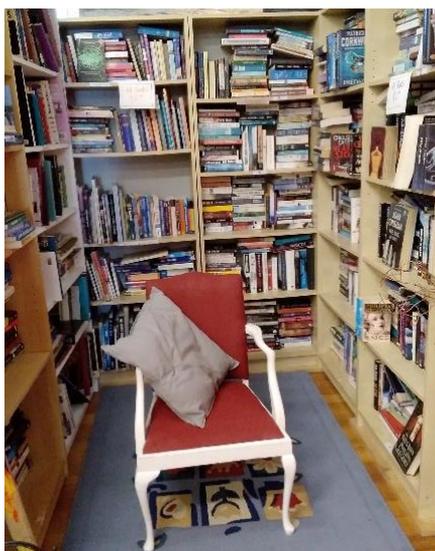


Proud Sponsors

tbusinessary

Our Venus Bay Community Op shop: Supporting a Sustainable Community in Venus Bay

Over the last 50 years, the clothing industry has changed dramatically.



Fast fashion has boomed and instead of people shopping when the weather changed, they changed sizes or changed jobs, our shopping habits became less about necessity and more about following the latest trends. Suddenly instead of buying one item of clothing for \$100 we could buy five items for \$20.

Due to the rise of fast fashion the clothing industry has become one of the biggest contributors to landfill contributing over 92 million tonnes of waste each year. One way to help reduce the negative environmental impact is to keep clothing in circulation for longer. The two big things you can do to support this are:

- Instead of buying your clothing new, do your clothes shopping the Op shop.
- Bring any good quality, clean donations into the Op shop.

Set yourself a 12-month Pledge:

If you are serious about wanting to influence more sustainable practises in the clothing industry and in general, create a clearly defined goal, this will mean you are more likely to stick to it and make an impact. Many people have decided to pledge not to buy anything new for a specified period such as 12 months.

Other ways we support the local community:

In addition to keeping clothing and a wider range of other items in production for longer, the Venus Bay Community Op Shop funds other community centred programs which we run from the Community Centre. These include the following programs:

- The free Wednesday Community lunches
- Playgroup
- School holiday program

Ways to Support Us:

Shop With Us: Keep the Venus Bay Community Op Shop front of mind when you need something. Its easy to forget that we have a huge range of clothing, CDs, DVDs, games, household goods, outdoor goods, pictures, collectable, and unique and quirky items.

Instead of heading to the local shopping centre when you need to top up your wine glasses or kitchen items head to us first. Write a list of your clothing needs and shop with us first, you are much more likely to pick up a unique or designer piece. Shop Christmas decorations and presents with us, also birthdays and other gifts.



Donate to Us: We do not exist without your donations. The key here is that it needs to be sellable. As such we love it when we get clean, undamaged donations. We take donations of almost anything except for beds and mattresses. If you have big furniture items to donate, we do ask that you come and speak with us about it first to ensure we have room to take it.



**COME AND GET YOUR MANNA GUM,
OR OTHER NATIVE & INDIGENOUS
PLANTS AT VENUS BAY COMMUNITY
CENTRE ON EASTER SATURDAY
10AM TO 12 NOON**

This project aims to encourage a viable koala population on the Venus Bay Peninsula through progressive planting of Gippsland Manna gums, a preferred food and habitat for the species.

Since 2013, the Venus Bay Koala project has seen thousands of manna gums planted. This year the manna stock was grown from Venus Bay seeds, so it is completely indigenous to this area. We also have a selection of other plants indigenous to the area.

Now is the time to plant! All our plants are propagated locally.

Plants are grown by our own Silver Banksia plant group. Come along on Easter Saturday to get your own native plants that will grow well in Venus Bay.

Are you our next Plant Group Coordinator?



We are looking for someone to help keep this valuable little enterprise going.

It is not an onerous task, about 3-4 hours per week would do it and you would need to have an understanding of indigenous plants, perhaps a background in horticulture and some knowledge of propagation and cuttings.

Duties would include planning and coordination the existing group members, working with them to pot up seedlings etc.; gather materials for cutting, labelling plants, ensuring there are materials for cuttings and potting mix etc. Don't worry, you would not be alone –plant group members can help.

We'd love to hear from you if you are interested in this role:
info@vbcc.org.au

Indigenous plants of Venus Bay Peninsula is available from the Community Centre. The cost is \$20 and the booklet is a collection of plant articles produced for the Matter of Fact newsletter over a number of years.

This is a great resource for new and existing residents and the money raised supports the continuation of the <https://friendsofvenusbaypeninsula.org.au/>

Although the Friends group no longer operates this valuable resource is once again available online. Thanks to past members for allowing this site to be reinstated and to the people who have already purchased the booklet to enable us to support the website.

Indigenous plants of Venus Bay Peninsula



Trees and Shrubs
Grasses - Sedges / Rushes
Ferns
Scramblers - Climbers
Aquatic/Wetland
Lilies - Irises - Orchids
Herbs

This is a collection of Plant of the Month features provided by Friends of Venus Bay Peninsula for the Venus Bay Community Centre over many years. An amazing resource for our community with many thanks to Lorraine Norden.

Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Memorial Hall – *What's the buzz?*

Hi all! Thanks to the team at the VB Community Centre for inviting me to contribute to this amazing newsletter on a regular basis. Our new Committee of Management is getting up to speed with all the events and initiatives on offer in our region. As the pandemic restrictions lift on capacities and protocols the Hall has seen a pickup in venue hire welcoming some new presenters and also celebrating with our local organisations once again.

As always, the **C.E.R.T.** annual fundraiser event held on 12 March was a cracking night with auctions, raffles and dancing (Yes dancing!) Wonderfully successful and more importantly an evening to recognise and congratulate the work these amazing individuals do for our community.

The **Tarwin Lower Film Society** continues to go from strength to strength with their screenings held on the third Friday of every month. Doors 7pm; Film 7:30pm. BYO drinks and food. Click [here](#) for more info on membership and upcoming movies.

This year's **ANZAC Day Service** will be held on 25 April from 12 noon at the Cenotaph (next to the CFA) in Tarwin Lower. Once again the Wonthaggi Brass Band and students from the Tarwin Lower Primary School will take part in the ceremony with our very own Shire Councillor Sarah Gilligan taking the mic to MC. More info closer to the date via our [website](#) and [FB page](#).



Finally, as Easter is fast approaching we will be hosting a **HUGE Market Day** on Monday 18 April between 8:00am – 1:00pm. Please come along and support our local stall holders and participants. All proceeds of the sausage sizzle and cake stall go towards the operating costs of the Hall and our major fundraising focus - to replace the weatherboards before winter really sets in!

“Think Global – Act Local”

Marg de Wolff

Secretary, Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Memorial Hall Inc

The Venus Bay Angling Club invites you to their

EASTER EGG HUNT

EVERYONE WELCOME

**EASTER SUNDAY
10 AM
FISHERMANS ROAD
JETTY**



The Angling club will also have a barbeques over the Easter weekend and will be out and about talking to fishermen in the vicinity. If you are around you might like to consider joining the club. The Easter Fishing Competition is on over

the full four Days 15, 16, 17, 18th. Details at the Clubhouse in Fishermans Road, Second Estate, Venus Bay

Bass Coast Refugee Sponsorship Group (BCRSG) presents the inaugural

World Music Event

Saturday 23rd April 2022 at the Inverloch Community Hub Doors open 7pm



Be inspired by the talent of local musician **Aaron Lopez-Freeman** on guitar and vocals. Be entertained by **Karavana Flamenca** whose Spanish/Romani, Turkish, South American and Aussie members use rumba's progressive style to create original songs that weave in Latin, traditional flamenco and Moorish influences.



Book a table with friends or purchase a single ticket to our cabaret style event and join in this community celebration of our rich cultural diversity.

Supper will delight with **multicultural food tastings** and drinks for purchase at the bar. Put in your bid for some fabulous items being offered at our **live auction** and help to support refugees to live in our welcoming and supportive Bass Coast Shire.

Tickets \$50.00 and available from:
<https://www.trybooking.com/BXOZP>
or scan the QR code below:



email enquiries to: bcrsg2021@gmail.com



VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Employment Opportunity

The Recycling Op-Shop is looking for a new Coordinator. We are saying goodbye to Jess who has been offered a fulltime position elsewhere. She will be missed when she finishes up at the end of the month.

Social Enterprise Coordinator, Community Recycling Op Shop

If you have experience in retail, are seeking a fulfilling role in a small community and interested in part time work we would love to hear from you. You will preferably have experience in a retail setting, stock display and pricing as well as good people management and computer skills.

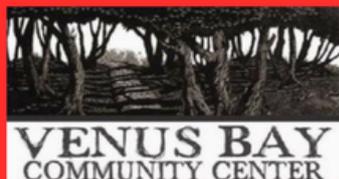
The role is 14 hours per week and includes Saturdays.

Job share arrangements may be considered for the right people.

Please email or drop in to register your interest and receive a copy of the position description. Applications will close April 29th 5pm.

Please note Carol is the contact person for this position.

email: carol@vbcc.org.au or phone 5663 7499 or 0404 773 044



COMMUNITY RECYCLING OP SHOP OPEN HOURS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

9:30AM - 2:30PM

SATURDAY

10AM - 2PM

The Recycling Centre will be open on Easter Saturday and Easter Monday.

We have a great stock of puzzles, books, outdoor chairs, fishing gear, cheap games and second hand bikes to buy.

If you need a jumper or coat for the cold nights we also have plenty of those in stock at the moment or the opposite extreme of clothing suitable for hot weather.

Are you burning-off safely?



For many people, burning-off vegetation is an effective way to prepare and maintain properties. Unfortunately each year CFA crews are called out to help people who lost control of their burn-off.

Here is some simple advice to stay safe when burning-off.

FIRE DANGER PERIOD

You can only burn-off if you have a written permit issued by the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or the CFA District Office.

TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS

All fires in the open air are banned during Total Fire Ban days.

Any permits are suspended for the duration of any Total Fire Ban days.



Have you checked your council's local law regarding when and where you can burn off?

You need to check your council's website for local laws to ensure you're allowed to burn off. Your council may have regulations and certain days that you can burn.

If CFA has declared the Fire Danger Period for your municipality, open air burning is prohibited unless a specific permit is obtained. Fines for burning off during this time without a permit can be up to 120 penalty units and/or up to 12 months' jail.

Have you checked the weather?

Check weather forecasts for the day of your burn-off and a few days afterwards. If more than light winds you should postpone your burn-off.

Also check it won't be too windy on following days, as the wind can reignite your burn.

Do you have an adequate water supply?

You need to have enough water to extinguish a possible outbreak. For small fires, it's recommended you either have access to a hose or at least 10 litres of water. For larger fires appropriate firefighting equipment and/or machinery may be required.

Clean up around your burn site.

Create a 3-metre clearance of all flammable material around your whole burn-off site.

Have you registered your burn-off?

Register your burn-off by calling **1800 668 511**. This will ensure CFA won't be called out unnecessarily to your burn-off.

Have you notified your neighbours?

Ensure you are considerate of your neighbours when burning off. Notify them if you are in close proximity and the smoke may affect them. Also burning items that are wet or green may cause excessive smoke.

Have you put it out properly?

Make sure there are enough people to monitor, contain and extinguish your burn-off safely and effectively. Ensure that your burn-off is completely extinguished before you leave it.



TARWIN LOWER & DISTRICT CFA

You might see the volunteers back on the truck this year collecting for the Good Friday appeal

If you miss them they been putting out collection tins in local shops in both Tarwin Lower and Venus Bay, including the Community Centre.

One of the things that defines the Good Friday Appeal is the thousands of volunteers on fire trucks and at traffic lights, in pubs and clubs and at hundreds of events shaking the Good Friday Appeal tins as people opened their hearts and their wallets to support The Royal Children's Hospital.

Since 1931, the Good Friday Appeal has raised funds for The Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. Over this time, funding has supported projects at the Hospital that have helped it become world leading.

With support from our wonderful community of fundraisers, the Good Friday Appeal can help the Hospital continue to provide world-class care to patients and their families by funding projects in four key areas:

- State of the art equipment and technology
- Ground breaking research
- Education and training for staff development
- Patient and family centred care programs

Thank you for choosing the Good Friday Appeal. Your fundraising efforts will make a real difference to the lives of children at The Royal Children's Hospital.

**CHANGE YOUR CLOCK
CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARM**

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/smokealarms

Beep
Beep
Beep

CFA information trailer will be available at Easter. Come along to discuss fire plans before we head into the season of winter heaters. Volunteers will be onsite to talk to.

**FIRE SAFETY
POP-UP**

FREE FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

Come down and see us Easter Saturday. CFA will have their community engagement trailer set up and will be there to help answer all of your questions around fire safety and preparedness.

**16 APRIL 2022 - 10AM TO 2PM
MAIN STREET, VENUS BAY**

SEWING GROUPS for 2022.

SEWING NOTIONS every Thursday afternoon 1.30 – 3.00. Come along with your projects and meet other people, share knowledge, get advice on how to repair, mend, or remake items. We have machines available and a range of zips, buttons, cottons and more.

Evening group - Third Wednesday of the Month – A STITCHIN TIME. Once a month gathering, bring your current fabric or fibre projects, discuss ideas and methods, have a cuppa or a glass of wine. Third Wednesday 5.30 – 7.00pm.

Sewing Notions

Thursday
afternoons
1.30 - 3.00

- *Mend it, darn it, patch it.
- *Bring a project or help out with a Community Centre project.
- *Advice & assistance on your own projects.
- *Recycle, upcycle or new.



New Sewing group
Starts March 3rd
All welcome

A Stitchin 'Time'



5.30 - 7.00pm

Third Wednesday of the Month

- Social sewing group.
- Bring along your current project or ideas.
- Share a cup of tea or a glass of wine.
- Talk all things fibre and fabric.
- Stitching, knitting or crocheting
- Share what you are working on.
- Guaranteed to help with motivation and inspiration



EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

10.00 - 12.00

\$8.00 PER CHILD

Saturday
9 April
Gardening
Gurus and
lantern
magic

Monday
11 April
Wonderous
Wigs,
Raggy
friends and
BEAR ART

Wednesday
13 April
Sensory toys
and musical
makers

Thursday
14 April
Journals,
worry dolls
and paper
crafts



All of these services are supported by the Recycling Op Shop and the volunteers that help out.

If you are new to the area please drop in and introduce yourself.



The trailers are free to use but we do ask that you return them quickly for others to access and use them only in the local area.

Venus Bay Community Centre

FREE SHARED COMMUNITY LUNCH

EVERY WEDNESDAY

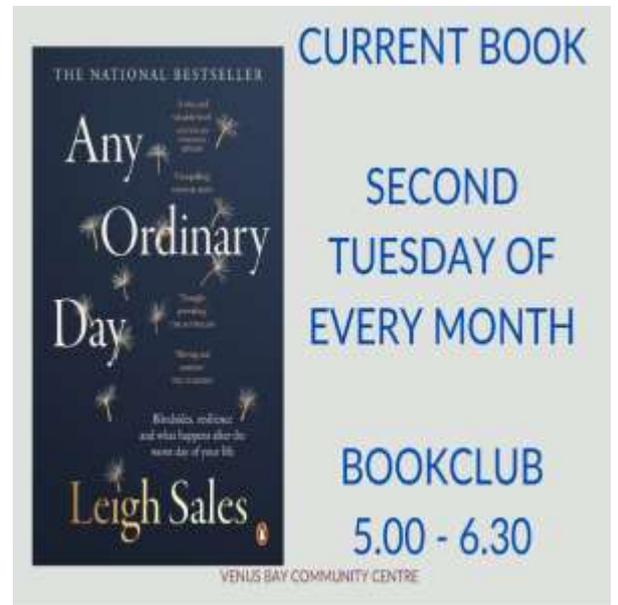


A chance to get together and meet others in our community - share some food and conversation - everyone welcome. 12 noon. Everything supplied.



**Playgroup
Every
Thursday**

10.30 - 12.00



CURRENT BOOK

**SECOND
TUESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH**

**BOOKCLUB
5.00 - 6.30**

VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Book Club is a great place to meet new people. The books are supplied as a set from the local library network.

Playgroup is free of charge. We have a wonderful facilitator, Jade, who comes with a background in education. Jade usually prepares a small activity each week and there is no obligation to attend each week.



**Tarwin Lower & District
Community Health Centre Inc.**

19 Walkerville Road,
Tarwin Lower VIC 3956

Telephone 03 5667 5680

Fax 03 5667 5679

ABN: 54 549 578 717

Incorp: A0012733G

www.tarwinhealth.com.au
info@tarwinhealth.com.au

NURSE PRACTITIONER

Current services include a Nurse Practitioner, Deb Garvey, Appointments available from 8am Wednesdays until last appointment, Blood tests done on Wednesday are collected by Pathology, Deb can send a prescription straight to the Venus Bay Pharmacy. Other days Deb consults by Telehealth.

Phone 5667 5680. If the phone is unattended, please leave your name and your contact number and we will get back to you. To make a telehealth appointment, phone 5616 2222

Julia Price art fans who love her work can purchase her art currently hanging at the Tarwin Lower Community Health Centre at half price. All proceeds are kindly being donated to the Health Centre and are Tax Deductible

**VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

LADIES FISHING DATES

Venus Bay Jetty
Fishermans Road

April 19 - 12.45 pm
May 17 - 11.30 am
Jun 16 - 12.00 noon

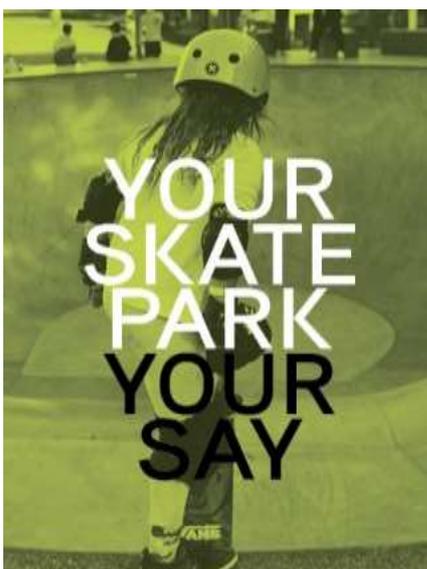
We will enjoy a cuppa together from the Clubrooms if a member is available on the day.

Jupiter Skate Park update

Well done on the response to the concept plans. South Gippsland Council have confirmed they had 98 responses to the recent survey for the new Skate Park!

This is considered to be a really good response for such a small town. Obviously it is an important issue to our locals.

The next step is to press on with a detailed design with a few changes from the survey response in particular to the basketball space. All going well the finalised should be out to tender in the next six to eight weeks!



VENUS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

RIDE A BIKE



NEW BICYCLES AVAILABLE TO
HIRE AT VENUS BAY COMMUNITY
CENTRE

\$20 PER DAY

DEPOSIT AND REGISTRATION REQUIRED



WE HAVE NOW
ADDED A TRIKE
TO THE FLEET

DID YOU KNOW
WE PROVIDE 24HR
ACCESS TO A BIKE
MAINTENANCE
STATION

Tarwin Lower Union Church

News



Regular services:

Saturday 5:30 p.m. Catholic
and Mass 6.30 p.m. (every Saturday after 2nd
Sunday of the month)

Sunday 10.30 a.m. Anglican/Uniting

Our mission is to be a welcoming, sharing Christian community

Dates for the diary:

- Final Lenten study at the Tarwin Lower pub: 10th April at 12 noon
- Palm Sunday, April 10th, at 10.30 a.m.
- Easter services:
 - Good Friday, April 15th, at 10 a.m.
 - Easter Day, April 17th, at 10.30 a.m.
 - Easter Day, April 17th, Catholic mass at 9 a.m. Tarwin Lower hall

CONGRATULATIONS

Pennicott Wilderness Journeys -

Wilson's Promontory Cruises – Winners

Great acknowledgement for a South Gippsland business winning gold in two categories: New Tourism Business category and Major Tour & Transport Operators categories for their world-class eco boat cruises. The 2.5 hour cruise, which launched

in September 2019, departs from Norman Beach in Wilson's Promontory National Park in custom-built amphibious boats. The cruise takes in the unique granite coastline and abundant wildlife of The Prom, travelling out to reveal the iconic granite monolith of Skull Rock.



Friday 22 April - A Fantastic Woman (2017 Spanish Film) – subtitles

Please take note the change of date

Films are screened at the Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Hall.

Memberships are available at Trybooking.com (Click "Buy Tickets" and search for Tarwin Lower Film Society).

12 months (from July to June)- \$60

3 months (consecutive films) - \$25.

Alternatively, you can find a TryBooking link at the tarwinlowerhall.com website.

For convenience, a link to Trybooking website can also be found at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BTOXM>

FILM SOCIETY

HOME MARKET:



Great Southern Rail Trail - Visitation and Marketing Plan

The development of the Great Southern Rail Trail (GSRT) Visitation and Marketing Plan will aim to position the trail as a premier Australian rail trail experience and creates strong links between the trail and its surrounding environments and towns.

The plan will guide how Council implements clear, audience-centric and motivating marketing, content and product enhancement activities to provide visitors more reasons to visit, stay longer and to visit all year round.

The project is a Council Plan initiative and key Visitor Economy Strategy Action that will be completed by 30 June 2022.

Have your say through the survey below by 9.00am Monday 4 April.

[Complete the Survey!\(External link\)](#)

Melbourne Follies in 'Cabaret Downunder'

is a brand new spectacular, with world-class vocalists and dancers that ooze sophistication, style and a touch of outrageous Aussie humour in a dinner and show format. The show incorporates Australia's biggest hits and Europe's traditional sexy and chic cabaret numbers

Melbourne Follies in 'Cabaret Downunder' will be playing at Trulli Kitchen in Meeniyan on 1st and 2nd of April.

Doors Open 6PM, Show Starts 7PM Doors
Dinner & Show | Adult \$80 | Child (Under 12) \$60
Family Ticket \$275 (2 Adults & 2 Children)



Tickets can be purchased at the link below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/844223>

This one-off \$250 payment is designed to help ease the cost of living for eligible Victorian households during the pandemic.

\$250
Power Saving Bonus



Applications for the Power Saving Bonus are made online, however we understand that many people lack access to devices or internet, or confidence and skills in using technology.

To ensure no one gets left behind, neighbourhood houses across the state are ready to help people complete their Power Saving Bonus application.

Please note: The closing date for the Power Saving Bonus has been extended until 30 June 2022!

BALD HILLS WIND FARM COMMUNITY FUND SMALL PROJECTS - \$2000

Applications open now

Clubs, community groups and other organisations are invited to apply for a small projects grant of up to \$2000.

Eligible projects must provide a benefit or service to people in the Tarwin Lower, Venus Bay and Walkerville district.

Applicants may submit multiple applications but each project must 'stand alone'.

See <https://baldhillswindfarm.com.au/community-fund/2022-grant-process/> for:

- Grant criteria
- Application form

Closing date

13 May 2022

BALD
HILLS
WIND
FARM



GET ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER PROGRAM



Apply for up to \$200 to support your child in sport and active recreation activities.

To be eligible your child must be:

- aged 0 to 18 years
- a resident in Victoria
- named on a valid Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card and Medicare Card.

Visit getactive.vic.gov.au





Do you have a few hours to spare?

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at the community centre...do you have any particular skills you can contribute? Or perhaps you have a bit of time to spend helping with filing in the office or sorting donations for the Recycling enterprise?

Every bit counts and every bit is appreciated. We could not function without our fabulous team of volunteers.

So why not come and join in!

Situated at 27 Canterbury Road, Venus Bay.

Phone: 5663 7499, Send mail to Post Office Box 786, Venus Bay 3956

Email: info@vbcc.org.au Website: www.vbcc.org.au

Opening hours reflect the season - please check our website or Facebook for details

or call Alyson 0416 242 331

Venus Bay Community Centre is supported by:
Department of Health & Human Services (Victoria) and the Commonwealth Government, South Gippsland Shire Council.

Our website is www.vbcc.org.au

Find current and back issues of Matter Of Fact on our website. Please contact us if you wish to be on our email distribution list.

